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PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Group Art Unit: 1751
AKIYA NAKAYAMA, et al.)
Application No.: 10/059,168)
Filed: January 31, 2002)
For: TRANSPARENT CONDUCTIVE)
FILM FORMATION PROCESS,)
PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVICE)
PRODUCTION PROCESS,)
TRANSPARENT CONDUCTIVE)
FILM, AND PHOTOVOLTAIC)
DEVICE) September 25, 2002

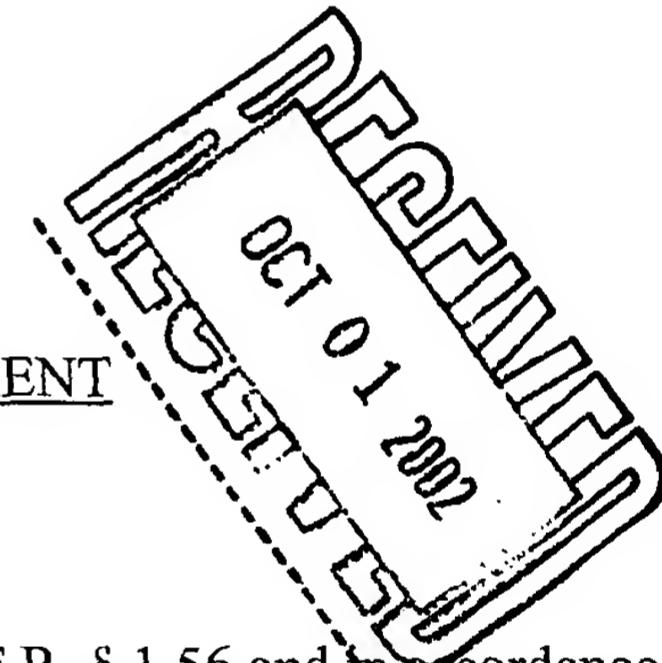
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TC 1700
SEP 27 2002

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.



- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,510,151
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,998,730
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 6,140,570

- (4) Japan 63-456
- (5) Japan 6-116722
- (6) Japan 10-310862
- (7) Japan 11-220154

References (4) to (7) are discussed at pages 2 to 4 of the specification and may be deemed relevant for the reasons given there. English-language abstracts for references (4) to (7) are enclosed. Reference (2) is believed to be an English-language counterpart of reference (6), and reference (3) an English-language counterpart of reference (7). The concise explanation of relevance for each of references (4) to (7) is believed to be satisfied by one of the discussion in the specification, the English-language abstract or the English-language counterpart.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Application:

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>	<u>GROUP ART UNIT</u>
09/983,427	10/24/2001	2812

A copy of the cited Application is enclosed.

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)			ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.016147.	APPLICATION NO. 10/059,168			
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			APPLICANT AKIYA NAKAYAMA, et al.				
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)			FILING DATE January 31, 2002		GROUP 1751		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,510,151	04/23/96	Matsuyama et al.	427	509	
		5,998,730	12/07/99	Shiozaki et al.	136	256	
		6,140,570	10/31/00	Kariya	136	256	
				RECEIVED SEP 27 2002 TC 1700			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		63-456	01/05/88	Japan			Abstract
		6-116722	04/26/94	Japan			Abstract
		10-310862	11/24/98	Japan			Abstract
		11-220154	08/10/99	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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